to deprivation of rights of persons with disabilities and non-implementation of related laws, rules, regulations, executive orders, guidelines, etc. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is running manpower development programmes to improve availabilityof rehabilitation professionals, providing wide range of rehabilitation services through the 6 National and Apex Institutes in the different areas of disability, 5 Composite Regional Centres, 4 Regional Rehabilitation Centres, 11 District Rehabilitation Centres and 70 District Disability Rehabilitation Centres. The Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO) is manufacturing and providing various types of aids and appliances for persons with disabilities. The Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) is responsible for regulating training policies and programmes for various categories of professionals in the area of disability and maintains a Central Rehabilitation Register for them. The National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilites has came into being in December, 1999. Implementation of the PWD Act, 1995 is reviewed through the mechanism of statutory committees *i.e.* Central Coordination Committee (CCC) and Central Executive Committee (CEC). Delivery of various rehabilitation services to persons with disabilities is facilitated by voluntary organizations by affording financial assistance and technical and administrative support. To promote economic empowerment, the National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC) extends soft loans for self-employment ventures.

Achievements of 'Abhaya'

2034. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether an institution 'Abhaya' a centre for the destitute women, mentally ill, discarded children and drug addicts is working in the State of Kerala;

(b) if so, the achievements made by this social welfare centre;

(c) the authority which is funding the centre;

(d) whether a wide publicity of the good work done by the centre is made to enable social organizations in other areas to set-up similar centres for the unwanted persons, discarded children and destitute women; and

(e) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Abhaya, Trivandrum in Kerala is a grantee organization under the Scheme to Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities and the Scheme for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse. The project titled "Kendra aiming at the rehabilitation of mentally ill" is assisted under the scheme for around 30 beneficiaries. In this centre, the mentally ill persons are given psychiatric treatment and counselling. Facilities exist for both residential and non-residential inmates. After treatment and counselling the inmates are rehabilitated through vocational training in the areas of spinning, weaving, stitching, tailoring, typewriting etc.

The Centre is also providing services namely; preventive education and awareness generation; identification of addicts; motivational counselling; detoxification/de-addiction, vocational rehabilitation; after care and reintegration into the social mainstream under the Scheme for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse.

(c) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is funding the organization for both these projects.

(d) and (e) Under various schemes, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is assisting a large number of voluntary organizations for different purposes. The Ministry in a number of forums such as meetings, seminars, and in media has recognized the significant role of the voluntary sector and the State Governments are advised from time to time to promote and encourage voluntary sector in the concerned areas. There is a steady growth of the number of organizations which are being funded for various services. The Ministry does not publicise individual centres.

Utilization of funds for tribal development

2035. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the funds allocated under different tribal development programmes are not fully utilized;